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Front Matter

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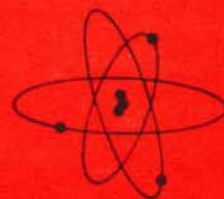
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OF SCIENCE**



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1968

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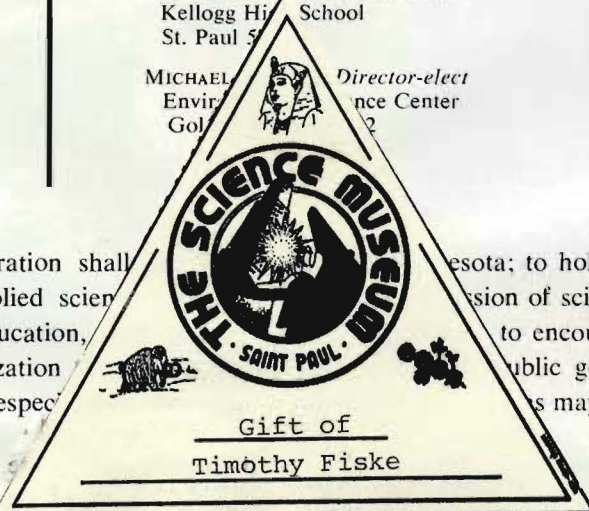
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Editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Editor.

One prerogative of being designated as editor of the *Journal* of the Minnesota Academy of Science is the opportunity to write an introductory statement, and this is a pleasant as well as prestigious fringe benefit as I present my inaugural issue.

Being new in the position, however, I reserve judgment or comments on the challenges and unsolved problems, heavily related to financial support, that the previous editor delineated in her valedictory statement. Time and the efforts of many other individuals will determine whether these challenges will be met or compounded, whether the problems will be reduced or escalated. From past experience, I know that being an editor, having to make selections from the offerings of different persons or having to alter and condense their presentations is hardly a way to achieve widespread popularity. Objective fairness is the only possible answer, and that will be my guide-line.

There are, of course, positive elements which require examination and deserve an immediate commitment. The desire expressed previously by the Academy's Board of Directors—to encourage young scientists and students by giving them an outlet for expression in the *Journal*—will continue to receive dedicated attention. In this respect I hope to be as accessible and as helpful to new contributors as was Mrs. Rosen. At the same time, reports always will be welcome from persons firmly established in scientific, academic, or research communities because these add to the prestige of new contributors, enhance the *Journal's* status, and make it more vitally useful within Minnesota and beyond.

This issue contains articles chosen specifically to reflect the variety of sources and resources available in both subject matter and authorships. It is, unfortunately, only a sample of the total amount of material made available for publication since the annual meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science in the Spring of 1968. But arbitrary limitations of space are an undebatable difficulty with which any editor must live.

The personal satisfaction that editorship of the *Journal* holds for me lies in the continuation or renewal of friendly associations developed through many years as a writer and editor on the staff of The Minneapolis Star, and more recently through publication work in the Minnemath Center at the University of Minnesota. The *Journal* is at once an avenue for maintaining those contacts and also provides the means to enrich them in an enlarged circle that I hope you will create.

Angelo Cohn

Across the Executive Director's Desk . . .

Some months have now passed since I joined the staff of the Minnesota Academy of Science. My first impression was that I would enjoy the association with many persons connected with the Academy and with its programs. This has proved to be very true, and the months have been busy but extremely pleasant.

We have been experiencing some problems, primarily in the fiscal area, but the future looks much brighter. We also have had some delay in the publication of the *Journal* during the change of editorship, but as you receive this first issue of 1968, a more voluminous second issue already is under way. My personal thanks to the membership for their forbearance and understanding during this period.

There have been a number of encouraging happenings that have more than offset the tribulations. The Spring Meeting at the College of St. Catherine was a great success, with between 600 and 700 persons attending one section meeting or another. The Junior Academy's State Science Fair, held separately this year, enjoyed similarly favorable attendance. Likewise, the Fall Meeting at Bemidji and Itasca Park was attended by the largest group on record for that seasonal activity.

The Summer Science Show and the Junior Science, Engineering and Humanities Symposium are two new programs that have been added this year. Both were successful, and they are sure to grow with each year. Gains will be accomplished in a large part by an increase in student participation and support. A vastly improved JAS newspaper (*The Spectrum*) and an increase in Chapter affiliations already are evidence of this.

The next major event will be the Regional Science Fairs climaxed with the State Science Fair on April 17, 18, and 19, 1969, at the Pick-Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis. The Academy Spring Meeting is scheduled for May 2 and 3, 1969, at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. The National Science Teachers Association will hold its Silver Jubilee regional meeting in conjunction with that Academy gathering.

This also may be considered as first call for papers for the Spring Meeting, and I would hope that section chairmen will have the material in sufficient time to be able to report section highlights as of March 1, 1969, with detailed program information to be available by April 1, 1969.

Membership is increasing slightly, but not to the extent it could or should. Many people have the mistaken idea that one must be an industrial scientist, college staff member, or secondary school teacher to be qualified for membership. In reality, our objectives are such that anyone supporting them and having an interest in science or its educational aspects could qualify for membership. Your lay friends should be encouraged to support the Academy on that basis.

Thank you for your cooperation since I have been associated with the Academy. With continued and united effort, the Academy can accomplish more than ever in fulfilling its goal of being "dedicated to the advancement of research, education, and understanding of science."

M. I. HARRIGAN